Selection of Income-tax Officers.

365. Mr. K. T. Mathew—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to select the best candidates available for appointment in Government service; and if not,

(b) what is the policy that is being pursued by the Government;

(c) if the answer to sub-division (a) is in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by the Government for selecting the best available candidates for all the posts except of the Commissioner of Income-tax, in the Income-tax Department?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

(b) Please see answer to sub-division a) above.

(c) Officers who have been found to be capable and are expected to turn out satisfactory work in the new department were selected for the places.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Why did not the Government call for applications?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Because the intention was mainly to appoint them from the service. Further a large number of applications had already come in.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—When did the Government decide not to call for applications?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They never intended to call for applications.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I had a letter from Mr. Herbert that he would call for applications. When did he change his mind?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the reason for not considering the claims of unrepresented communities?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Because there was no need. Those from the service were appointed.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Are there not Graduates from unrepresented communities?

Rama Varmha Tampuran—But the idea was to appoint persons who are in service.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Were not Messrs. P. K. Kumaran, E. K. Kittu, O. M. Makkotha, all Ezhuvas, in the service?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—But they are far below in grade.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I suppose Mr. P. K. Kumaran is a Registrar?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Persons with office experience were taken.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Has the Registrar not got office experience?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A Registrar has not got much office experience.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Then, Mr. Makkotha.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think he is only a Labour Inspector or so.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is it very difficult to get office experience by training?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A department has to be organised afresh and therefore it is absolutely necessary to start with persons who have office experience.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Does it apply to all the departments?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I should think so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Have not the Government appointed candidates who have not had office experience to run departments?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What is the office experience the Director of Public Health has got?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He is the technical Head of the Department. No person of that kind can be expected to have office experience.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Do you mean to say that for an Executive Head no office experience is necessary?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is certainly desirable, but not possible in all cases.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Why?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A technical officer will necessarily have limitations of wanting in office experience.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What is the nature of the work that these Income-tax Officers will have to do?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I cannot name all kinds of files that they have to handle. There are hundreds of such matters.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—As I understand, they have only to look into the incomes of the people and assess accordingly.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That is one of the duties.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is it not the primary duty?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Have not the Government read the Regulation passed in this Council in which the nature of their work is definitely outlined?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Are they to be given clerks?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will there be a Head clerk?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A clerk in the usual grade of Rs. 25—40 will be appointed.

Excess of income anticipated.

366. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to questions Nos. 550 and 551 of the last sitting, will the Government be pleased to state whether they hope to receive any income in excess of their last budget—anticipations and if they do, what their answers are to the said two questions (550 and 551)?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(a) Yes. Answer to question No. 550. (a) Please see the revised estimates as regards the State. In regard to Cranganur, no excess income is anticipated and no additional expenditure is proposed.

(b) The questions herein do not therefore arise.

(c) and (d) Yes.

551. No portion of the excess this year is proposed to be utilised for reducing or abolishing the salary cut. The last portion of the question does not arise.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What is the excess amount and under what head?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—It appears under various heads.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—That is what I exactly want to know.

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—I have only to refer the Hon'ble Member to the statements in the Budget itself.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know why the Customs Head was not included in the receipts from Cranganur?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—There has been no Customs Revenue realisable from Cranganur.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— Cranganur being an importamt place in the State, has it not a right to get a portion of the Customs?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—It has not been the practice to credit Customs Revenue to Cranganur.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—I want to know the reason.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Because Customs Revenue is always credited to the State in which the Port lies. The Port lies in Cochin, therefore the Customs also go to the State.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— Is not Cranganur included in Cochin?

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